

# HAZEL GREEN HERALD.

HAZEL GREEN - KENTUCKY.

## ITALIAN IDLERS.

Two Distinct Classes of Potholeable Social.

The idle classes in Italy, the true representatives of the dolce far niente sentiment, are the sons of the old nobles, or of fathers in Rome or Naples who have money which the sons are now spending.

It is unfortunate for this class that the commendable simplicity of Italian life permits his money to go a long way, for it maintains them in decent though not extravagant idleness, and, perhaps, if they marry, a small amount of money enables them to transmit enough to their offspring to allow the latter to continue the same useless mode of existence.

This is not the case with large fortunes in England or America, where the extravagant habits of the gilded youth lead to the dissipation of the entire patrimony in a few years, reducing the young man to the primitive condition of work or starve, which leads to his disappearance from this mundane sphere if he is of no account, or to his becoming an honorable idler if he has much stuff in him.

This class is large in Naples. Its members do nothing; they survive, nor do they use their capital in a manner to give employment to others. They are generally handsome, they dress well, and they usually act like gentlemen, but as they have little else to do than care for their persons, read the newspapers in the cafes, or saunter up and down the Toledo, the one fashionable and the only tolerable thoroughfare, life were rather heavy on their hands. As it is, it appears to agree with them, and their contentment is only paralleled by that of the Southern negro lounging in a watermelon, or of a Neapolitan boatman devouring his dish of rosy, garlicky macaroni. There are less of these idlers as you go toward the north, and there will be still less when Italy in all its parts shares that commercial activity which is already making itself forcibly felt in Tuscany and Lombardy.

But it will take at least half a century to eradicate from the Italian mind the idea that there is in the blood, bones and tissue of a certain class something that distinguishes them and renders them by a sort of divine right superior to a certain other class inferior by heredity. The time must come when the word "pothole" will disappear from the social vocabulary, but that time is not yet.

The officers of the Italian army are spoken of by their fellow-citizens as gentlemen, that is, in the conventional sense, and not in that which requires merely a good disposition, good manners and courteous behavior. They are as a class good looking, polite, well-behaved and modestly well-to-do. They are the feeling of the Italians, as elsewhere suggested, insisting on this tribute to the military art. But they constitute a caste separate from the soldiers, which is not always for the good of either, and is decidedly contrary to the practice of both France and England. They come from the better educated, and are therefore thorough, and, although they are too pretty to be killed, it is believed that they are as gallant as they are amiable and good looking. There is an esprit de corps already developed in the army which keeps pace with the national sentiment, but unless war comes soon in a form that will try the mettle of officers and men, it is to be feared that the vicious aristocratic system and the habit of simply playing at war through this handsome military display, will be a source of weakness when serious trouble really comes, as it must eventually come in the complicated international relations of Europe. —Venice Cor. San Francisco Chronicle.

## PROFIT IN HOGS.

One of the Surest and Quickest Ways to Make Money.

Enthusiastic swine-breeders, of a statistical turn of mind, occasionally try to show by figures the comparative importance of the hog-growing interest of this country. But no great array of figures is needed to satisfy the farmer of moderate means, that hog-raising is one of the surest and quickest way of making money. It takes less capital than in the rearing of horses or cattle, and it brings returns more sooner.

The greatest drawback in swine-breeding is the liability to losses from the epidemic diseases which so frequently sweep through the country. Yet the great productivity and rapid growth of hogs, render it possible to soon recover from these losses and still come out even of even the most disastrous year. A friend recently remarked that he had followed the showing of hogs at fairs for many years, though from a lack of sufficient capital, not as largely as he would have liked. At the same time he kept a lot of good hogs at home, and almost immediately on returning from the fairs in the fall, he had to sell his hogs to pay his horse-showing expenses. Since then he handles fewer horses and more hogs. Now, instead of standing near the foot of the row as a breeder of good horses and hogs, he has advanced to the foremost rank as a breeder of improved swine. —Western Pioneers.

## CRABS AND CROWS.

How the Modern Crab Retrograded in Intelligence.

In looking over a curious old book the other day we came upon the following natural history anecdotes, which, though related as facts, can hardly be accepted as such in our day. In one of them it is explained how crabs eat oysters. Being very fond of oysters, the wily crab hunts about until he finds in some quiet corner an oyster opening his shell to enjoy the sunshine and fresh air, rather than salt water. Knowing that his claws would be snatched if he ventured alone within the powerful grip of the shells, the crab thoughtfully drops in a pebble between the shells, and then calmly eats out the five oyster at his leisure, with no more response than the human being feels who cuts out his mollusc with a knife. This account has not been verified by recent observers, any more than the fable of the barnacle goose, so that we are left to suppose either that the modern crab has retrograded in intelligence, or that the modern scientist advanced. Another story is that there is a special enmity between the crow and the owl, in pursuance of which the crow devours the owl's eggs in the daytime, when the owl can not see, and the owl the crow's in the night when the crow can not see. —Christian at Work.

# FERDINAND'S LAMENT.

I've been here now quite a month— I don't get any fun.

No angel food is passed around, no pastries do they try.

Instead of sitting up my purse with other people's cash, I'm stuck in a barrel with ash.

Things are not as they used to be; I very often wish I hadn't sailed up my book.

I used to file my little cheque in some one's rear view, but now, alas! I file away the rough edge of a stove.

You see my hands are heavy, quite, for work they were not made; Translations come from desk to dirt, and this here heavy spade.

My skin, that never knew a touch more harsh than I men fair, is now abraded by the rough contact of prison wear.

I say, it isn't just the thing to put a man on grub. That's not used to falling to eat, I don't want to die.

I now regret my awful ways; I don't want to die, I don't want to die, I don't want to die.

Singular of ashes. Poetical license. —H. S. Keller, in Hamlet.

## I WISH I COULD REMEMBER.

One minister's Sunday text; My memory is so treacherous I forget the most of what I say.

When asked about some sermon, which I know was very fine, I'm afraid to the world, and sing I don't get any pie.

—L. L. L.

## IN A BUCKET SHOP.

Some Gambling Houses That Play a Day Game Openly—Bucking the StockTiger—Big Fortunes Made by Those Who Run the Bank.

BUCKET SHOP speculation is considered a trifle more respectable than playing policy, and a fraction less so than ordinary stock speculation through the medium of an exchange broker.

The bucket shop is the middle ground to which fortune hunters resort for a further chase after unearned wealth. Its patrons come from every class of society, without respect to age, sex or occupation. The numerous bucket shops in the vicinity of Third and Chestnut streets are daily thronged with a heterogeneous mass of humanity who are willing to bet on a game that makes the dealer rich. There are boys scarce ten years old; there are hoary-headed men old enough to know better; clerks, broken-down business men, street loafers, physicians without patients, lawyers without clients, sporting men of every sort, and need talk of "stocks" and "values" and put up their money on the most perfect game ever conceived for allowing a man to imperish himself. Besides these there are a great many people who fear to be seen in a bucket shop, who sit in brokers' offices and get "points," and send their orders to the bucket shops by district telegraph messengers. But most remarkable of all, some of the large stock brokers who operate on the exchange patronize the bucket shops through the medium of their office boys.

## THE BUCKET-SHOP'S METHODS.

The method of operation is very simple. A bucket shop is a miniature exchange.

It is a place where the broker transacts all the business. He buys of any one who wants to sell or sells when any one wants to buy. He requires only one per cent. margin, charges one-eighth of one per cent. commission when the deposit is made and a like amount when the transaction is closed. The profits to the broker are usually limited to two hundred per cent., although some of them are more reckless and have no limit. The margins put up on any stock are usually limited to one hundred dollars, but the number of investments is unlimited. Thus one operator who has a "point" that St. Paul, which is selling at 95, is on the "rise" will instruct the broker to buy him five shares of the stock and deposit his margin of five dollars. If by happy chance St. Paul, which he bought at ninety-five should go to ninety-six the investor is \$3.75 ahead, after deducting the broker's commission. He may leave in a like manner when the transaction is closed. If, however, the stock goes down he can draw out at any time what he has left until it touches ninety-four, when his margin is covered and his money is gone. No stock is bought or sold. That is a fiction. The whole transaction is

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